

TESTIMONIALS

IN FAVOUR OF

ALEXANDER NAPIER, M.D.,

PROFESSOR OF MATERIA MEDICA ANDERSON'S COLLEGE
MEDICAL SCHOOL.

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TO THE MEMBERS OF THE UNIVERSITY COURT,
UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to offer myself as a Candidate for the vacant Examinership in Materia Medica in Glasgow University.

I am forty years of age, and a graduate of the University of Glasgow, having received the degree of M.B. in 1872, and M.D. in 1877. I am also a Fellow of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow.

I was two years in practice in South Africa, and have for the past fifteen years been in active practice in this city. In May, 1880, I was appointed Assistant to the Professor of Materia Medica and Therapeutics in Glasgow University; this office I resigned in July, 1888, when called to the Chair of Materia Medica in Anderson's College, a post I still hold.

During two whole years, while Professor M. Charteris was laid aside through illness, I had entire charge of the Classes, delivered my own Lectures, and conducted the Class Examinations and the Examinations for Graduation.

For the past twelve months I have been Examiner in Medicine and Materia Medica for the Licence of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, Glasgow.

My work in Materia Medica for eleven years has thus brought me into intimate contact with students, and has given me thorough familiarity with the usual methods of teaching and examining.

I am also Visiting Physician to the Victoria Infirmary, Glasgow.

In 1878 I became closely connected with the management of the *Glasgow Medical Journal*, and from 1882 till 1888 I was Joint-Editor of that *Journal*.

I append a list of Contributions I have made to medical literature, together with Testimonials in support of my present candidature. Among these Testimonials will be found four selected, with permission, from a number given to me on a former occasion, and two letters of recommendation recently received.

I have the honour to remain,

GENTLEMEN,

Your obedient Servant,

ALEX. NAPIER.

CROSSHILL,
GLASGOW, 16th February, 1891.

CONTRIBUTIONS BY DR. NAPIER TO MEDICAL LITERATURE.

1. Physiology and Pathology of the Sympathetic System of Nerves
By PROF. A. EULENBURG and DR. P. GUTTMANN. 1879.
Pp. 146. Translated by DR. A. NAPIER.

It was for this work that the Astley Cooper prize for 1877 was originally awarded, a decision, however, which was subsequently overthrown on the technical ground that the essay was the work of two authors, and not of one only, as the terms of Sir A. Cooper's will were found to require.

2. A Handbook of Physical Diagnosis, comprising the Throat, Thorax, and Abdomen. By DR. P. GUTTMANN. Translated from the Third German edition, for the New Sydenham Society, by DR. A. NAPIER. 1879. Pp 441.
3. On the Use of Chrysophanic Acid Internally in Psoriasis. *Lancet*, 26th May, 1882.
4. Eczema of the Nipple. *Glasgow Medical Journal*. September, 1882.
5. Vaccinal Eruptions. *Glasgow Medical Journal*. June, 1883.
6. The Oleates. *Glasgow Medical Journal*. April, 1885.
7. Numerous Reviews and Translations in *Glasgow Medical Journal*, 1878-88. These include "Medical Items" (relating chiefly to Materia Medica and Therapeutics), which appeared monthly, 1878-85; and the Periscope on Dermatology, and that of Materia Medica and Therapeutics, 1886-88.



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LIST OF TESTIMONIALS.

	PAGE
From THE VERY REV. JOHN CAIRD, D.D., Principal and Vice-Chancellor, Glasgow University, - - - - -	9
From W. T. GAIRDNER, ESQ., M.D., LL.D., Physician in Ordinary to H.M. The Queen in Scotland; Professor of Practice of Medicine, Glasgow University; Physician to Glasgow Western Infirmary, - - - - -	10
From JOHN CLELAND, M.D., LL.D., F.R.S., D.Sc., Professor of Anatomy, University of Glasgow, - - - - -	11
From JOHN G. M'KENDRICK, M.D., LL.D., F.R.S., Professor of Institutes of Medicine, University of Glasgow, - - - - -	12
From ROBERT PERRY, M.D., President of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, Glasgow, - - - - -	13
From JAMES FINLAYSON, M.D., Physician and Lecturer on Clinical Medicine in Glasgow Western Infirmary; Physician to the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Glasgow; Honorary Librarian to the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, Glasgow, etc. - - -	14

TESTIMONIALS.

From THE VERY REV. JOHN CAIRD, D.D., LL.D., *Principal
and Vice-Chancellor, Glasgow University.*

THE UNIVERSITY,
GLASGOW, 29th October, 1886.

DR. ALEXANDER NAPIER has been for a considerable period Assistant to the Professor of Materia Medica in this University, and for two years, during the absence of the Professor from illness, has acted as his substitute. In the latter capacity he has delivered the usual courses of Systematic Lectures, conducted the Practical Course, prepared the Students for Examination, and acted as one of the Examiners for graduation. Of course, I can speak of his technical knowledge and ability only from hearsay, but I know that he has proved a singularly successful teacher, bringing to the duties of the chair a comprehensive and thorough knowledge of his subject, and presenting it to the students in a lucid and interesting manner. From all I can learn he has succeeded not only in sustaining their attention, but in gaining their respect and gratitude. Of his literary qualifications and his general standing in the profession I leave it to more competent judges to speak, but I know that he has done his work in this place well, and I feel assured that the experience he has gained here must have greatly added to his other qualifications for the Professorship to which he now aspires.

JOHN CAIRD.

From W. T. GAIRDNER, ESQ., M.D., LL.D., Physician in Ordinary to H.M. The Queen in Scotland; Professor of Practice of Medicine, Glasgow University; Physician to Glasgow Western Infirmary.

GLASGOW UNIVERSITY,
27th October, 1886.

DR. ALEXANDER NAPIER has been for several years assistant to the Professor of Materia Medica in this University, and during the protracted illness of the Professor, now happily at an end, Dr. Napier had to perform all his duties for two years, while he was at the same time acting as one of the Editors of the *Glasgow Medical Journal*, and otherwise engaged in important literary and professional work.

As these facts are necessarily more of local than of general notoriety, I think it is only just to Dr. Napier to bear the strongest possible testimony to the admirable way in which he secured the attention of the students, and prepared them for their examinations, at the cost, in all probability, of much time which might otherwise have been devoted to original, or to more remunerative professional work. He has, however, been also a successful practitioner; and, having in view the great amount of experience he has already attained, his proved capacity as a teacher, and his evident enthusiasm in his profession, there are few of whom it may be said with more confidence that they are fitted to fill a chair of Materia Medica and Therapeutics.

W. T. GAIRDNER.

From JOHN CLELAND, M.D., LL.D., F.R.S., D.Sc., *Professor
of Anatomy, University of Glasgow.*

UNIVERSITY,
GLASGOW, 12th November, 1886.

UNDERSTANDING that DR. NAPIER is a candidate for the vacant Chair of Materia Medica in the University of Aberdeen, it gives me much pleasure to state that I know that both in the management for several years of the class of Practical Pharmacy in this University, and as Lecturer on Materia Medica during sessions in which he acted as substitute for the Professor, Dr. Napier has proved himself an exceedingly excellent teacher, and made himself most acceptable to the students. He has a wide and thorough knowledge of Medical Science. He has not only engaged in original research, but has done, in connection with the *Glasgow Medical Journal*, a large amount of good work, which has both benefited the profession and taught himself the habit and method of maintaining acquaintance with the progress of Therapeutics on the Continent. Should he be successful in obtaining the Chair which he seeks, he will bring both experience and high ability to the performance of its duties, and the University of Aberdeen will find in him a sound, energetic, and practical Professor.

JOHN CLELAND.

From JOHN G. M'KENDRICK, M.D., LL.D., F.R.S., *Professor
of Institutes of Medicine, University of Glasgow.*

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW,
11th November, 1886.

I HAVE much pleasure in stating that DR. NAPIER appears to me to be highly qualified for the duties of the Chair of Materia Medica in the University of Aberdeen. He has had great experience in teaching the subject to large classes of students, and I have reason to believe that his Lectures were highly appreciated.

His knowledge of the subject of Materia Medica is wide and accurate, and he has, in my opinion, a clear view of its relative importance to other branches of Medical Science.

He has devoted special attention to the study of the physiological and therapeutical action of drugs, and is quite familiar with the results of modern enquiry in this rapidly advancing department of the subject. Dr. Napier is a man of great general erudition, familiar with French and German medical literature, and he possesses soundness of judgment and ability for active work. Considering his special training, I know no one more likely to do justice to the duties of the Chair and to strengthen the Medical Faculty of my *Alma Mater*.

JOHN G. M'KENDRICK.

From ROBERT PERRY, M.D., *President of the Faculty of Physicians
and Surgeons, Glasgow.*

11 QUEEN'S TERRACE,
GLASGOW, W., 9th February, 1891.

HAVING been requested to express my opinion as to the qualifications of DR. NAPIER for the vacant Examinership of Materia Medica in Glasgow University, it affords me much pleasure to state that no one better suited for the appointment could be selected by the University Court.

In addition to being a distinguished medical practitioner, Dr. Napier has specially devoted his attention to the study and teaching of Materia Medica, and is at present very highly appreciated as the teacher of this branch of medical education in Anderson's College Medical School.

Before his appointment to that Chair he was for some years assistant to Professor Charteris, and for a time conducted both the practical work and the lectures upon the subject.

During the temporary absence of Professor Charteris from ill-health, I had the pleasure of being associated with Dr. Napier in the examination of the university students, and thus had special opportunities of judging of the admirable manner in which he performed the duties of an Examiner.

I can therefore very confidently recommend him to the University Court for the appointment he now solicits.

ROBERT PERRY, M.D.

From JAMES FINLAYSON, M.D., Physician and Lecturer on Clinical Medicine in Glasgow Western Infirmary, Physician to the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Glasgow; Honorary Librarian to the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, Glasgow, etc.

2 WOODSIDE PLACE,
GLASGOW, February 7th, 1891.

IN supporting the application of Dr. ALEXANDER NAPIER for the Examinership in Materia Medica for Glasgow University, I can only say, from much personal knowledge, that he is a man of great general ability, that for years he has applied himself assiduously to the study of Materia Medica, and that he has had much experience and success in teaching the subject.

These qualifications are well known to the profession here, and they seem to me to afford much support to his application.

JAMES FINLAYSON.

